

# PERMANENT RECORD

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 4, 2013

The Honorable Council of the City of Evansville met on regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2013 in the City Council Chambers, Room 301 Civic Center Complex, Evansville, Indiana, with President Connie Robinson presiding. The following business was conducted.

**These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript. Audiotapes of this meeting are on file in the City Clerk's Office.**

### **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** McGinn, Mosby, Brinkerhoff-Riley, Friend, Lindsey, Adams, O'Daniel, Weaver, Robinson

There being nine (9) members present and zero (0) members absent and nine (9) members representing a quorum, I hereby declare this session of the Common Council officially open.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

This evening the Pledge of Allegiance is led by Councilman Weaver.

Fellow Councilmen and those in the audience, welcome to the November 4, 2013 meeting of the Common Council.

### **TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Colton Culver

### **COUNCIL ATTORNEY**

This evening Scott Danks is City Council Attorney.

### **SERGEANT AT ARMS**

This evening Officer Karges is the Sergeant at Arms.

### **READING AND AMENDMENT OF MINUTES**

Is there a motion to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2013 meeting of the Common Council as written?

Councilman Lindsey moved and Councilman Adams seconded the motion to approve the minutes the regular meeting of the Common Council held October 28, 2013 as written. Voice vote. So ordered.

### **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **IN YOUR NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> PACKET:**

- \*City Council Meeting Agenda and Committee Meeting Schedule for November 4, 2013
- \*Resolution C-2013-22 and supporting documentation
- \*Ordinance R-2013-25

#### **EMAILED MATERIAL:**

- \*City Council Meeting Minutes from the October 28, 2013 Council Meeting

#### **ON YOUR DESK THIS EVENING:**

- \*Extended Agenda

**President Robinson:** Can I have a motion to receive, file and make these reports and communications a part of the minutes of the meeting.

Councilman O'Daniel moved and Councilman Lindsey seconded the motion to receive file and make these reports and communications a part of the minutes of the meeting. Voice vote. So ordered.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS**

##### **RESOLUTION C-2013-21**

##### **FINANCE**

##### **FRIEND**

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Evansville ratifying the 2014 Consolidated Housing & Community Development Annual Action Plan

##### **RESOLUTION C-2013-22**

##### **A.S.D.**

##### **BRINKERHOFF-RILEY**

A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana approving a Declaratory Resolution Amending the Jacobsville Redevelopment Area and Allocation Area Boundary, Adopting a New Master Plan and Adding Property to the Acquisition List in the Jacobsville Redevelopment Area

**President Robinson:** Is there a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as written?

Councilman Friend moved and Councilman O'Daniel seconded the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as written. Voice vote. So ordered.

### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

There will not be a City Council Meeting on Monday, November 11, 2013. The next meeting of the Common Council will be Monday, November 18, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. Committee meetings will begin at 5:15 p.m.

Bruce Wright, Potato Drop.

**Bruce Wright:** Thank you Councilmembers, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Bruce Wright. I'm a member of Old North Methodist Church and I was invited to give a little information about this somewhat quirky fundraiser that we do as a community service, and it's called Potato Drop. This will be our fourth one and we work in cooperation with Central Methodist Church.

What the Potato Drop is, and I'll tell you very briefly: Let's assume that you are a potato farmer in Wisconsin and you have this bumper crop of potatoes and the supermarket chains have purchased all the ones of fairly good size but you have a warehouse full of smaller potatoes that are not marketable. There is a site called the St. Andrews Society that will accept those as a donation; that will give the farmer a nice tax write-off. From that point, they look for a group that will sponsor (*Inaudible*) what they call a packaging, inspection, transportation, driver, fuel, lodging, etc., etc. It comes to around \$45,000. Throughout the year, the men's group at Old North United Methodist Church have done BBQs, we have sold scrap metal, we have done various other spaghetti dinners and so forth and we've raised quite a bit of that money or (*Inaudible*). We've (*Inaudible*), again, this fourth one. We've had businesses in that area that have also contributed, made donations. Central Methodist has made donations as well.

So what's gonna happen at 6:30 in the morning on a Saturday morning, November 9, a semi will arrive from Wisconsin carrying 42,000 pounds of potatoes; that's 21 skids. We have contacted several food pantries in Evansville and they are already committed. Some of the larger requests for potatoes: Salvation Army wants 8000 pounds, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 10,000 pounds, Adams Pantry wants 4000, Potter's Wheel, 4000, Oak Hill Baptist, Howell Baptist, Tri-County Area Senior Center, St. Vincent de Paul, Grace Baptist Outreach Ministries, and so forth. They will arrive and this whole semi is unloaded and potatoes are on their way to the food pantry within two hours. We have a youth group that's going to be helping us. Berry Plastic donates the use of their loading dock. We have the forklift that just moves them right across.

We've also set aside around 1500 pounds for drive-up. This feeds our low-income families that have been notified, and depending on our response, two to three, sometimes four bags per vehicle.

Again, we were asked just to give you the information. This is something...as unusual as it is, it works and this is our fourth one. We certainly intend to do this in the coming years and we wanted to make you aware of it. I guess it's something right that's happening.

**President Robinson:** It's good and everybody likes potatoes.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** And Mr. Wright, if I could...just basically some logistics. It's this Saturday at 6:30 in the morning.

**Bruce Wright:** Correct.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** If people want information about it, feel as if they would meet the criteria, this idea that you've got extra potatoes...

**Bruce Wright:** We don't take applications. You know, when a car drives up and...

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** Okay, so...

**Bruce Wright:** It's going so fast...

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** Right. So it's early in the morning this Saturday. I also know that some of the...you also serve at Independent Square as well as provide...the Dream Center is on your list as recipients, and frankly...

**Bruce Wright:** *(Inaudible)* There has been quite a bit of response on this.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** Where would people mail a donation if they wanted to make one to help cover the cost of the packaging and the transportation that the men's club has taken on?

**Bruce Wright:** I thank you for asking. Again, this is going to be going on year after year. The donations can be made to Old North United Methodist Church and the address is 4201 Stringtown Road, Attention: Bruce Wright, or Eric Dunville, or the pastor Reverend Mike Monahan. We would certainly designate that money to help cover the overhead cost of this.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** Because frankly what you're doing is taking advantage, I mean, historically this is food that would lay in the field...

**Bruce Wright:** It would rot.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:**...because it didn't meet the criteria for the major sales outlets and there's frankly a ton of food. I mean I really shocked to find out what percentage never leaves the farm because it's imperfect and often getting it to those in need because of packaging and transportation costs because often the farmer or the owner of the land is willing to give it up, they just don't want to pay to get it out there and so there's a huge amount of food that can be accessed. It's really just a great idea and it can be done with lots of other things. I'm glad you came. I'm glad you came on short notice. Thank you.

**Bruce Wright:** Well thank you so much.

**Councilman Adams:** What kind of potato is this? Yukon, Idaho?

*(Laughter)*

**President Robinson:** I don't think so.

**Bruce Wright:** I honestly don't know.

**Councilman Adams:** Well I happen to like Yukons!

**President Robinson:** Well don't we all. They're the most expensive potatoes.

**Councilman Adams:** I'm a connoisseur.

*Multiple Speakers Speaking Simultaneously*

**President Robinson:** Dr. Adams, I'm sure they're not Yukon so I'll be in line.

**Councilman Adams:** Well they might be Yukon.

**Bruce Wright:** *(Inaudible)*...at the very beginning it was quite crude. I mean the semi was one of these big, open beds that literally we had just piles of potatoes out in the parking lot. Everybody had to go out with bags and boxes but we've gotten a little more sophisticated.

**President Robinson:** Well thank you for coming and I appreciate Councilwoman Riley bringing that to our attention. Thank you Councilwoman Riley for inviting him.

**Bruce Wright:** Have a good evening.

**President Robinson:** Okay. Next we have...this lady has been so patient, she's been trying to come and give here presentation for a couple months; Lynn Miller Pease.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** *(Off Mic) (Inaudible)*

**President Robinson:** Okay, sure.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** (*Off Mic*) That'd be a great celebration of leadership, oh, nomination, what they're doing with the potatoes. Dr. Dan, I think the potatoes are "*el free*", yeah right?

We're handing out a little packet and the book you get to keep. Let's see this is... (*Inaudible*).

(*On Mic*) All right, the first thing that you should see is *the Flower Man* book. When we began the V.O.I.C.E. process, we wanted to think of something we do really quickly to get people in the mindset that it is kind of the responsibility of all of us to figure out what we might want for our future but also we didn't want them to think just about the future, we wanted them to figure out that they needed to be part of coming together in order to make the future, so it would be all of our responsibilities, and we wanted it to be in a servant/leader type concept so we found the book *the Flower Man*. What we love about this book by Mark Ludy is that it's all done in pictures so when we've had people come together with V.O.I.C.E., we've had children pre-reading, we've had a number of people in different languages so this book allowed for us to communicate with every single person regardless of where they're from or age, so it's wonderful. If you're glancing through it, what you will see is that the community that the flower man walked into had a whole lot of issues. We are in no way implying that our city, in any way, has the number of issues or the grave problems that are in this book, but we do know that there are always areas that we might want something to be a little different or a little bit better.

When we look through the book, each page shows this flower man who kind of has some color and light. He's a servant for the people in the community. As he starts walking in the community, you get a beautiful picture, you can look inside the windows, you can look at the streets and see that there are all kinds of issues happening. You can get to be a little bit of a, I guess, Peeping Tom, I don't know. Anyway, so the first (*Inaudible*) picture, there's a little boy walking really late at night by himself, obviously a tough neighborhood, very disturbing.

Pretty soon, we get into the place where the flower man sees that there's a place where he could buy a house. He buys this messy old house and without talking to anybody or trying to tell anybody else what to do, he starts working on his house and we get color and change. Nobody's really paying attention. I think some of us know that sometimes we're trying to do a good thing and nobody really sees it for a while. But there are a couple little kids paying attention and that's cool.

Then we go to the next page and the flower man hands a flower to this little girl that's watching, little bitty girl. She takes the flower, she becomes colorful and she kind of gets the feeling of the business and takes off.

The next page, the little girls starts passing out the flowers, the old guy is passing out the flowers, everybody is starting to get into it. The community starts to change. We've got some folks that kind of like it the old, nasty way and they're getting upset they're moving but, you know, we decide as a community that we're not going to pay attention to that so things get better and better.

All of a sudden, people all over this community are doing incredible things. There's color everywhere, people are working together, it's phenomenal, so there's real transformational change. Even at night, we've got a neighborhood that not only is good in the daytime but it's

safe at night. Wonderful things are happening but all of a sudden, we realize the flower man is leaving; he's taking off. At first there might be this concern that if the person who led this good leaves, maybe the good will stop. But we go to the next page and we see that there's two citizens that as new person comes to town, they greet the guy on the motorcycle, they offer him a flower, and they keep the good work going so it lets us know that it's sustainable change rather than just, you know, it happens once and few times and that's not going to continue.

Then we see the flower man goes to the next community. He actually goes and finds this little kid that was taken off with the grumpy people. He wants to make sure she gets her flower and at the end, he didn't give up on the kid, at the end, the flower gets to go to the little girl, the dad starts to transform and we believe that this will happen all over again.

So part of the V.O.I.C.E. session was getting people's mindset in, "How can we figure out what kind of positive future we could have and how we want to be engaged and be (*Inaudible*)", but I wanted to make sure that you guys knew where we started because there's an awful lot of flower stuff all over this and I think if you didn't know it you would have just thought that maybe the 70s were a little good to me so I just make sure you knew what was going on.

Okay, so we started with that, that is the story, a little bit of the story of V.O.I.C.E., and what we tried to do is go to a number of different kinds of places. We went to schools, we went to churches, we went to 32 different meetings, diverse groups, and what we were looking for is for people to give us what they really hope for for the future. How we started...go ahead...how we started, we've got technical novices.

**Unidentified Speaker:** There we go.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** There we go flower (*Inaudible*), let's keep moving.

When people first came up, what they did is they saw a timeline of what was going on in our community, a list of different things. We had them sign in out the timeline then we had them sit down in a big circle, kind of like this, and we asked 'em about, you know, what was positive in their community. I think our next slide, let me see what this one was...oh, to let you know the number of times and the people we reached, there were 32 total sessions. I think when I talked to you all; we were at about halfway, when we talked last. We had one bi-lingual session at Nativity that was translated the entire time; it was an absolutely beautiful session.

We got 1721 participants that signed in so I say that because I think you all know sometimes you ask people to sign-in, they don't all sign in so it was probably higher than that. We had nearly 1000 women, 775 men. We estimated at the point we did this that we had about 3200 hours of volunteer people helping with this so we've had a huge number of people helping us.

So I've told them to make...okay...this was very interesting. Go back to age...can you go back? Hey, okay. The age breakdown, we were able to, with the help of a number of the educators, we were able to get them to every single high school in our community, so every single one. All five of the public, both parochial, Signature, Day School, I mean it was incredible. And we were also at Glenwood School and at Evans School so we reached almost 1100 young people. And our sense of that was if we are looking at a future that's going to be, you know, 10, 15, 20 years from now, we need to get the young people engaged so we did it that way.

We had a nice mix of diversity, and this is all in your report. The other...this slide is more to show you that we had meetings all over the community so it wasn't the kind of thing that we only had them on the westside, or on the eastside, or downtown. We hit all over the community and we had them in a number of different kinds of locations so that people would, could feel comfortable coming no matter where they were from.

All right, so the first question we asked people, we asked three main questions when they were in the big circle like this. We asked what was positive or what they really had passion about in the community because we wanted to get a baseline of where we were. Then we asked them, if they could make a decision for a great future, what are some of the things that they want to leave behind and what are some of the things they wanted carry forward so I believe our next (*Inaudible*).

Okay, this is a wordel, this is when all the words that we collect, (*Inaudible*) there are several thousand comments from this, were poured into a computer program, and it showed us what things came up that were the most popular or that people liked. So...friendliness, wonderful to see. Riverfront, diverse, universities, but right there in the center, I love the people, and I think all of us know how important that is in the sense of the people in this community. But this gives us an idea of when we ask a couple thousand people, "What do you think is good in the community?" this was a positive response.

Now when we asked them, "What do you want to leave behind?" So if we get to choose, we get to clean out the refrigerator, we're going to get rid of what we don't want, what are we going to leave behind? Check it out: Homelessness, negativity, bullying, poverty, racism, drugs, closed-mindedness. Interestingly enough, they said, "east versus west". I sometimes think that's kind of a friendly competition but that's just my opinion. Unemployment, judgment, I don't think many of those would surprise us. The bullying was big. Of course, we talked to a lot of kids. But one of the things I loved the most personally was the sense that they wanted to leave negativity behind (*Inaudible*) negative things, negative diversity.

All right, what do they want to carry forward? What do they think are some of the things that they think we have that they want to carry into the future, carry with us? Open-mindedness, diversity, education, volunteering, parks, the arts. A progressive attitude made it. Look at that. Connectivity, inclusiveness, positive attitude, neighborhoods, culture, a real sense of positive things that said we've got to have this when we go into our future to make it the future that we want.

Okay, the next thing we did is we divided people into smaller groups yet, and it would be maybe four to six people and we asked them to draw if they were giving a guide of our city. If they were on a bus and they were a tour guide what would they describe in the community if it were like 20, 25 years. And we suggest that in this bus there were people from all over the world that they can tell about our community that was so successful because we were envisioning a preferred future, not a lousy one. So, these are buckets of areas that have come forward: Greenspace, parks, types of recreation, animals, and a lot of that. The healthy fitness was huge. You can see all this infrastructure, community centers, sidewalks, lots of really wonderful things that they wanted. Entertainment, things to do, downtown, riverfront. Not only were they describing their pictures, but they were also showing us pictures, so they were drawing these visions. And these were people that didn't know each other and couldn't talk while they were

drawing their vision so it's not like they sat around and discussed it. They just started coordinating and drawing. It was amazing.

Some of the things that we heard over and over again and saw in the pictures were some of these things and these are the things that the V.O.I.C.E. outcomes are suggesting; that we consider these before we make a decision for the future. They came up so much, almost like an overlay. So if you've got a plan you say okay, these are things we must have, our health plan or whatever it is, always consider. So, before we decide to do something, is it innovative? Is it diverse and inclusive? Is it fun and hip? Is it connected and facilitated? People talked about really loving for everyone having an ability to talk so each person had a time to share. There weren't a couple of people that talked and everybody else listened. It was really great that way.

They wanted the community to be beautiful, sustainable, something that they could feel pride or be proud of and have it be healthy. So regardless of what we picked as the three topics they we were gonna move forward, those are things that we are going to carry forward with us cause they were in almost every single vision.

So when we put up some of our posters and different things, you'll see a flower and in the middle, it'll say *Connected – Facilitated – Innovative*, and each one of the petals talks about the stuff we're hoping will happen, no matter what we decide to do. So when I've been to corporations, or non-profits, or schools, anybody that wants to meet about the results, I suggest that they adopt this kind of an attitude going forward.

All right, so there were a number of topics that emerged. The number one carry-forward was diversity. I mean it was the main thing so I want to make sure that you understand that so anything that we do we should be asking ourselves, "Have we considered diversity and inclusion?" Every single time.

There were five topics that came up that were the strongest and we picked three that we felt we were the most able to work with. The two that we decided not to do, just so you'll know, economic development certainly came up. We also felt...and education. And we felt there were a number of people collaborating and working on that, on those two topics, and we felt they were covered in such a way that we did not need to do them.

What we picked: The first one was Healthy Greenspace, the second one was City Core, and the third one was Experiences. So Healthy Greenspace, we thought the desire for health was very strong but it worked so closely with the Greenspace, the parks, the connectivity between the two, both with people and the way it was connected, those could be combined.

City Core was a concept that we were thinking of that's broader than downtown. Although downtown is a huge part of it, it would bring into mind Franklin Street, Haynie's Corner, North Main, the neighborhoods around downtown and not the more narrow definition, but definitely riverfront cause riverfront was all over these visions.

Experiences came out of what we'd originally thought of as more of attractions but the more we read about what the millennial folks are interested in, experiences seemed to be more descriptive of what they were looking for, so whether it's a play, a café, getting a restaurant that has locally grown foods or organic foods, it's as much about a place with an experience or not...it might be Wesselman Woods, but what are we gonna experience or do within Wesselman Woods.



And these are just a few...we put a few of the statements that people said just to give you an idea of some of the word-for-word things that people said. So someone said, "Connectedness. Wesselmans. Burdette Park. Lots of greenspace for people to spend time outside in our city.

City Core, Greenway connected and finished. North Main redeveloped. Focus on Haynie's Corner and Arts District. Again, they would be talking about things but they were also talking about the connectedness in between the things. Fun city; change the entire riverfront. A boardwalk with businesses, rentals, cafés, waterpark on the island, wow, with a boardwalk bridge to get there. So what they were talking about was consolidated, concentrated fun, cool, hipness that people would just go to and really spend time.

So then as we've gone back out to call to people what we've done is we did the 32 sessions, we had a group of people, volunteers, go over assessing that, figuring it out. Then what we did is we went back out to the public to say this is what we heard and we called those BAM meetings and BAM stands for Big Action Meetings. The reason we wanted to call it that is that they're not meetings just to hear and sit and look at a report; they were there to hear what we found out and then figure out if they'd like to help with it. So in every meeting, we have had the opportunity for people to join in with the work that they want to see.

All right, so this is our first BAM meeting. It is at the Centre. I don't know if you can see the pictures but there were a couple hundred people that came and when they first started coming we were like wow, this is cool and then they kept coming, and then they kept coming and we kept putting more and more chairs. Although that was significant, maybe what was even more significant was out of the over 200 people that came, 70% of them signed up in one of the Flower Pot meetings to help and get involved so they weren't just there to listen, they were there to get engaged in what happens. As a facilitator, this is a phenomenal thing but for a Council to have a city that is so excited about the future being positive but is not sitting back saying, "So what are you gonna do?", they're saying, "What can we do? How can we help?" I think this was about the best news ever.

We had two more; we had three BAM meetings, one in the morning, a couple at night. They second one had about 70 people and the one after that...I think the last one in the morning had 50.

So we went from the Big Action Meetings and then we set up Healthy Greenspace meetings, and we call 'em The Flower Pot meetings to kind of go along with the theme of The Flower Man and we had our first Healthy Greenspace meeting and there were...I think there were 60 people at that one. Then on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October, we had our City Core meeting at the Arts Council and there were 70 people. Again, the 50 people and the 70 people signed up to do more. When we started looking at different subgroups in those groups, they signed up to do more. In addition, we asked 'em the question, "What could you bring to collaborate?" So they were telling us things like, "Okay, I've got this" or "I've got that". "My organization could do this part of Urban Gardens". We had people saying, "I will buy trees and plants". That was amazing. So they were not only saying, "I want to help"; they were letting us know how their corporations or their organizations would be willing to make it happen.

Our next one...oh, and we tried to have the meetings where it kind of made sense with the theme. We've sort of gotten in to this theme thing; it's kind of fun. Anyway, so Old National Bank is

league certified meeting so we thought that would be good for Greenspace and it's right on the Greenway.

The Arts Council, clearly City Core, right there.

When we got to Experiences we thought, "Where are we going to go for a great experience?" So we are actually having the third meeting at the Tin Man Brewing Company, on the second floor, because we think that's an outstanding example of innovative experience. People are talking about Franklin; it's crazy what's going on there. It's wonderful.

So at each one of the meetings we asked people, "What's happening now so we make sure that we have a base of where the parks and different greenspace things are happening?" We were finding out that people were doing urban gardening where we didn't know it was happening but we wanted to make sure we weren't doubling up on anything.

What Leadership Evansville and the volunteers have agreed to do is at each area of interest, whether it's Greenspace, Experiences, or City Core, we are providing facilitators, recorders, scribes, project managers, project coordinators, communications, PR, marketing, stakeholder, gathering, logistics, technology, social media, photographers, and greeters. And what I wanted you to understand is sometimes you get a big groundswell, people get excited, and then when it really gets into the project or the work, things start falling apart because of lack of communication or people get tired. What the Leadership Evansville and the V.O.I.C.E. committee people are committed to do is really treat this as individual projects in those groups. In addition, there's a group over the three that are helping coordinate the communication so if something bubbles up that's fabulous, let's say in Experiences but it would affect City Core, we can make sure that that information flows.

So an example of...we have the seed of Greenspace. We have LE people working that way. We've got you, me, and we, all the people around us ready to go. And in all these different areas, what we're gonna have is (*Inaudible*) grow out of Greenspace with these applied things on top of it, and I think if we do enough of that, what we're gonna have is a city that really grows, that's going to be a shining example. Take it from where it is and make it really zoom.

So what we offer to you all is we will keep, if you want, we'll keep reporting what's going on. We've got people in each one of the Flower Pots from different city areas so that they know what's happening; if it's metropolitan development in different areas, the Parks Department, blah, blah, blah. What I would love to see is a lot of engagement from you all because you really have a pulse of some of the other things that might be happening in the community, so if we're headed a certain direction and you know something that could work with it, great, or if you have another idea or you've heard of a funding source, whatever it is, or if we do, we want to make sure that this is all about sharing. So the other thing we've done is we've offered to report to people that can use it and it's now being looked at, it's been used in the SEEK report, it's being used by other groups that are saying, "Okay, how will this work?" What we've understood too from people like HUD and people way smarter than me on numbers that when you get a couple thousand people in a community saying a certain thing that gives enough weight that sometimes you can attract larger grants towards the city. So in any way that this could help fatten up or shore up any of the kinds of information you all might need in order to get something done, I want you to know that we'll do whatever we can to get you whatever information you need.

So I think...are there any quest...I know that was...kind of jammed a lot of stuff in quick.

**President Robinson:** *(Off Mic)* Appreciate the hard work you've been doing with this and we *(Inaudible)*. I don't know if any Councilmembers have any questions. It's exciting to see all the young people that's involved cause that's the future of our community so I think that's really great. *(Mic On)* I don't have my mic on. I'm sorry. I think that's really great that they're getting involved and that you reached out to such a diverse group of people.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** The young professionals are really excited about this. They're in every one of the Flower Pots and honestly the corporations are getting behind it too. We've got a couple of corporations that the head of the corporation has said, "I want five of my people in every one of these Flower Pots and I want to know if something comes up where we might need funding". I mean that's kind of the hope is that if we make this collaborative and open to people, that we can have a lot of shared responsibility for how we're gonna take care of it cause I really think that's where we get the sustainability. Anytime we just get one area funding something, it gets a little bit shaky if that one area goes away and I know these are tricky budget times and all that kind of thing so hopefully this will shore up. Plus my experience has been if you are open to listening to people and engage them, sometimes what could cost a lot of money might not if people are willing to lend even their ability to build that garden or do like what the trade unions did for Holly's House. I mean what a difference that made for them to be engaged.

**President Robinson:** Okay, well thank you for coming. Any Councilmember have any questions?

**Lynn Miller Pease:** Anybody else?

**President Robinson:** Anybody in the audience?

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** I have just a comment. I don't know, we don't have a large aud...I mean if someone in the audience wants to...

**Lynn Miller Pease:** *(Inaudible)* Stephanie, I couldn't see you talking. I'm sorry.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** I thought well if anyone from the audience...you can talk before me. That's fine. I really do want to thank you. I mean I went through Leadership Evansville, I was on the Roberts Stadium, I mean I've watched the process. You really have engaged an incredible number of people and I agree that's it's, like for me personally, that I should be more involved because there is that disconnect when you get with these fantastic ideas and how do you fund it? But the...I think the most beautiful thing that I heard you say is this idea that when we come at projects from a big picture that with all of these moving parts working together that we have such an efficiency and resources and we've started doing that. Like if we're gonna...you know, when we start to work on certain roads in Jacobsville, if, you know, if Mr. Keepes is also paving in that area or repairing sidewalks, if we're tearing the street up for another project then let's go ahead and repair a side....you know, replace the sidewalk. I mean this idea of this collaboration, you know I think part of the deal was when all these different committees and commissions and boards got set up, it was the...maybe it was a time when there was just the 80s, you know that unlimited resource. But now that the resources are so limited that it requires an amount of collaboration I don't think we have done and this idea of the V.O.I.C.E. sessions is driving it and it's bottom-up, which is the way it should be.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** Sometimes what an autonomous group like Leadership Evansville can provide, because we are not really attached to anybody but we sort of have connections with everybody. We can find out something is happening in a school, let a corporation know, which can fund it. The next thing you know we're putting apple trees in the back of the school so that the kids can have something to eat when we're not there to give 'em food. Yeah I mean so it just...it's interesting or we need a bus to go a little bit further in. You know I mean and it's the ability sometimes to connect the different people trying hard to do good work but just kind of pulling 'em in and making sure the information travels along that web.

So anyway...

**President Robinson:** Well thanks for coming.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** Thank you and if you all have questions that come up later if you think about it, you call me anytime and I'll do what I can.

**President Robinson:** Okay.

**Lynn Miller Pease:** Thank you.

**President Robinson:** Okay. Next, I have...Councilman Friend, the Finance Chairman has prepared a report that he'd like to discuss because there's been allegations that we have increased the City Council budget by 22%. No and I'd like him to address that because we didn't get this much publicity when we didn't take a raise this year.

**Councilman Friend:** Thank you Madam President. What I'd like to do is to...I passed out a handout that's got a lot of work paper with it and if you go back to the last page you're gonna see that our funds come from two sources. They come from the general operating funds, property taxes. The other source comes from the local income taxes so you have to look at those two different funds to make the determination. So when you go back and look at that last page you'll see under...there's a fund called the LIT fund, which is account #4745801, you'll see there was \$125,500 in the 2013 budget. Now when you come back to the front page you'll see another account, it's called #1011401 and that had it in at the beginning of the period of time it was \$176,000, no \$476,000. You combine those two, that comes up to a total of \$602,000 that we had in the 2013 budget. Now when you do the same thing in 14 budget, you'll find out that the Administration had moved everything, every bit of the 500 and...\$125,500 number to \$15,000 and brought that over to the front side which then when you combined both those funds again you come down with \$598,000. When you look at the fund #7474745801 for 2014 and then go back and look at #011401 again for 14 and come down, combined by \$598,000. That is a decrease in our budget line item, just a little, not quite 1%. For the overall budget, for the whole City was at 1.9 increase. We actually backed up so I don't know.

There's a lot of misinformation out there to the public thinking that this Council went on a spendthrift here in this budget. That is a...that's not the facts here so I just encourage people on this Council to talk to the Finance Chair, me, if you ever have any questions on the budget if it's gonna affect your vote any, one way or the other, I encourage that.

So make the record be straight that the Courier's report yesterday was misleading; it was not a 22% increase. In fact we back up by almost 1%, so I hope the Courier is taking note of this and they make a retraction of their statement in yesterday's paper.

That...Madam Chair?

**President Robinson:** *(Inaudible)* that thing. Any questions from any Councilmembers?

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** I guess I just want to clarify...I think what I understand from, and I didn't read, I don't know what report you're referring to. We did have a 2% raise this year. We did not last year. We didn't have a raise last year, we got a 2% raise this and this bigger account that is now 583 for 2014, that's all our wages are and insurance and PERF and worker's comp, right? But that other account is actually our contractual services, which is our ability to hire and that's been dramatically reduced but I...is that my understanding?

**Councilman Friend:** But Stephanie, keep in mind though when you have to look at the account #1011401 then you go back and look at #1431050, Contractual Services, last year in that line item was zero; this year it's \$90,000, however, in the 2013 budget that \$90,000 in fact was \$115,000. You see what I mean? So the...

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** I understand. There are two line items for Contractual Services because they are funded separately.

**Councilman Friend:** Funded separately.

**Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley:** Okay. I understand and so you've got to add the...okay. I do see what you mean by a slight decrease. Okay, I just...thank you.

**President Robinson:** Any other questions?

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Re: Resolution C-2013-21

Date: November 18, 2013

Time: 5:15pm.

Notify: Kelley Coures

#### **CHAIRMAN FRIEND**

2014 Consolidated Housing and Community  
Development Annual Action Plan

#### **A.S.D. COMMITTEE**

Re: Ordinance G-2013-17

Date: November 18, 2013

Time: 5:20pm.

Notify: Ron London

#### **CHAIRMAN BRINKERHOFF-RILEY**

Amending 18.12.090, 18.145.050, 18.135.080

Re: Resolution C-2013-22

Date: November 18, 2013

Time: 5:25pm.

Notify: DMD - Lana Abel

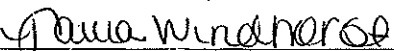
Amending the Jacobsville Redevelopment Area

**ADJOURNMENT**

**President Robinson:** Thank you. Can I have a motion for adjournment?

Councilman McGinn moved and Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice Vote. So Ordered.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Windhorst, City Clerk

  
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H. Dan Adams, Vice President